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General Assembly

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Agenda item 113 (d)
Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments

Appointment of members of the International Civil Service Commission and designation of the Chair of the Commission

Note by the Secretary-General

1. As regards the chairmanship of the International Civil Service Commission, it is recalled that article 2 of the Commission's statute provides that:

> "The Commission shall consist of fifteen members appointed by the General Assembly, of whom two, who shall be designated Chairman and Vice-Chairman respectively, shall serve full-time."

2. The vacancy for the Chair of the International Civil Service Commission will occur on 1 January 2011.

3. The Government of Sierra Leone has put forth a candidate for the position of Chair of the International Civil Service Commission.

4. The candidate's curriculum vitae follows (see annex).

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Annex

Kingston Papie Rhodes

Professional experience

Kingston P. Rhodes is currently Chair and member of the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC). He was first appointed to the Commission in 2007 and is completing his first four-year term. As Chair and member of ICSC, Mr. Rhodes is responsible, along with the other Commission members, to the General Assembly for developing a single, unified international civil service through the application of common personnel standards, methods and arrangements. In his capacity as ICSC Chair, Mr. Rhodes directs the work of the Commission and its secretariat, chairs the sessions of the Commission and promulgates, under his signature, the decisions of the Commission for transmittal to the Executive Heads of the common system organizations. During his leadership, Mr. Rhodes has endeavoured to place more emphasis on the strategic role of the Commission for strengthening human resource systems in the United Nations common system organizations.

Prior to taking up his appointment as ICSC Chair, Mr. Rhodes served from January 2000 to December 2004 as Executive Secretary of ICSC, that is as Chief Administrative Officer, during which time he was responsible for the overall management of the ICSC secretariat and for directing the development of compensation and human resources policies. He was the Commission's interlocutor in the informal sessions of the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly, where his role was to provide technical clarifications on the Commission's views and recommendations as contained in its annual report. In the ICSC secretariat, Mr. Rhodes facilitated an environment that fostered internal teamwork and a collaborative framework for dialogue between the Commission and its interlocutors. Mr. Rhodes also served as Joint Secretary to the Panel on the Strengthening of the International Civil Service.

Between 1980 and 1999, Mr. Rhodes served in a variety of increasingly responsible positions in the ICSC secretariat, preparing numerous position/policy documents for Commission sessions. His first appointment was as a statistician in the Cost-of-Living Division, followed by that of Research Officer in the Salaries and Allowances Division, covering pay and benefits issues. In 1992, Mr. Rhodes returned to the Cost-of-Living Division as Deputy Chief and, in 1995, was appointed Chief of that Division and Secretary of the Commission's Advisory Committee on Post Adjustment Questions. In that role, he directed the work on the United Nations worldwide system of equalizing the purchasing power of staff salaries. He provided ongoing technical advice to the Commission on statistical matters relevant to the mission of ICSC and significantly expanded professional contacts with leading statistical agencies throughout the world.

Between 1969 and 1980, Mr. Rhodes held a number of positions in the Sierra Leone national civil service, culminating in that of acting Deputy Director of the Central Statistics Office, where he worked on all aspects of complex statistical surveys and advised Government and parastatal agencies. During this period, he was also engaged part-time in the academic sector as a lecturer in Quantitative Methods at the Department of Economics, University of Sierra Leone; lecturer in Statistics for Administrative Officers at the Civil Service Training College; Assistant Course

Director at the Munich Centre for Advanced Training in Applied Statistics; and consultant statistician to the Nutrition Unit, University of California, on the 1978 national nutrition survey in Sierra Leone, subsequent to which he spent a year on attachment to the United States Bureau of the Census and United States Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Mr. Rhodes was the representative of the Government of Sierra Leone in 2006 to the Fifth Committee at the sixty-first session of the General Assembly. In the early 1970s, he was Sierra Leone's representative to the fifth and seventh sessions of the United Nations African Commission on Agricultural Statistics and Vice-Chair of the seventh session.

Mr. Rhodes holds postgraduate degrees from the Moscow Institute for Economics and Statistics and from George Washington University, Washington, D.C.

Mr. Rhodes was born in 1942 and is married. He is fluent in English and Russian and has a working knowledge of French.